



MOBILE OFFICES

In your neighborhood

To meet the needs of the constituents in his district, U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor will have a representative from his office each month at various locations as part of his mobile offices program.

Staff from Congressman Pastor's office maintains monthly mobile office hours throughout the Fourth Congressional District to meet with constituents and offer assistance with any problems regarding federal issues or agencies such as Medicare, Veterans Affairs, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service, or the Internal Revenue Ser-

vice. Constituents also may stop by and share their comments about issues in Congress. No advance appointments are necessary.

These are the locations and times of the mobile offices:

SOUTH PHOENIX

First Wednesday of the month, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

South Mountain Community Center

212 E. Alta Vista, Phoenix

WEST PHOENIX

Second Thursday of the month, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Desert West Community Center

6501 W. Virginia, Phoenix

GLENDALE

Third Wednesday of the month, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Glendale Community Center

5401 W. Ocotillo, Glendale

GUADALUPE

Fourth Wednesday of the month, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Guadalupe Senior Center

9401 S. Avenida del Yaqui, Guadalupe



Rep. Pastor discusses Medicare and Social Security issues with a constituent during a recent meeting with retirees who asked for a federal update on programs that affect them.

The boundaries of the Fourth Congressional District represented by Pastor are roughly from South Mountain to Bethany Home Road, and 83rd Avenue to 48th Street. The district also includes all of Guadalupe and parts of south Glendale.

Apollo High School student wins district art competition

An Apollo High School student was selected as the winner of the Fourth Congressional District's Art Competition, held by Rep. Ed Pastor, and was recognized at a ceremony in Washington.

Kassey Turnage of Glendale, won the contest with her pastel painting entitled "Rhythm and Reflection." The art work will hang in the U.S. Capitol for a year.

On Capitol Hill, she was recognized at an event that included, from left to right, her teacher Barbara Dahlstedt, Kurt Caceres, Kassey Turnage, Pastor, Benito Martinez, and Karen Turnage.



Students unveil mural researched at Smithsonian

Student artists at the Ed and Verma Pastor Elementary School in Phoenix recently met with Congressman Pastor to unveil a mural at the school based on research conducted at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History by artists Tlisa Jaurique and Marcus Zilliox. Pastor spoke to the students about the importance of pursuing their talents and continuing their education. Working with art teacher John Alvarez, the fifth- and sixth-grade students worked for two months on the mural as part of a multi-cultural desert art curriculum.



How to contact Congressman Pastor

Congressman Ed Pastor's office is in your city to serve your needs.

Please keep this information handy to contact his offices for assistance.

Web Page (use site for electronic mail): <http://www.house.gov/pastor>

Washington Office

2465 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0302
Phone: (202) 225-4065

Phoenix District Office

411 N. Central Ave., Suite 150
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Phone: (602) 256-0551

I ENCOURAGE YOU TO SEND MAIL ONLY TO MY PHOENIX DISTRICT OFFICE.

Due to the threat of anthrax-contaminated mail delivered to the Capitol complex, all incoming letters to my Washington Office must be irradiated before delivery, resulting in a delay of at least three weeks. Feel free to send mail instead to my Phoenix District Office. Thanks.

✂ *Clip and save* ✂

Congressman

Ed Pastor

WASHINGTON REPORT

Recess Update

September 2005

WASHINGTON OFFICE

2465 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-4065

PHOENIX DISTRICT OFFICE

411 N. Central Ave., Suite 150
Phoenix, AZ 85004
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www.house.gov/pastor

Congressman Ed Pastor
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CONGRESSMAN

Ed Pastor

WASHINGTON REPORT

Recess update

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Fourth Congressional District - Arizona

September 2005

Rep. Pastor addresses needs of constituency

Dear Fellow Arizonans:

The month of August traditionally is a recess period for Congress members, allowing us to spend more time in our home districts and meet with constituents. I spent the past month visiting with local organizations, constituents and elected and community leaders to discuss district needs and how the federal government may be able to help them improve things at home.

While I return to Washington this month better informed and proud of the work being done in the Fourth Congressional District, I continue to worry about the challenges we face at home with rising prices at the gas station, pharmacy and grocery

store. I will continue to work with Congress this fall will to protect our key values and jump start our economy. Every American should have the opportunity to find a job that allows them to care for their family, buy a house, save for the future and enjoy a secure retirement.

I hope you will read this update and find it useful.

Sincerely,

Ed Pastor
Member of Congress



Rep. Pastor visits Phoenix Children's Hospital

Congressman Ed Pastor visited Phoenix Children's Hospital in August and met with administrators and staff to discuss health care services for young patients and collaborative efforts with the federal government.

New prescription drug benefit begins Jan. 1

Congressman Pastor reminds seniors to enroll

The new "Medicare Rx" prescription drug benefit is scheduled to go into effect on Jan. 1, 2006. During the next few months, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service will put out much information about the enrollment process and the different drug coverage plans being offered. Seniors will have to determine which plan, if any, best suits their needs.

Although the details of the various plans are not yet available, the following information about the program and the process of enrolling should give seniors some idea of what to expect.

BASIC BENEFIT

Beneficiaries will pay (in 2006):

- A premium of \$37 a month
- A yearly deductible of \$250
- 25% of prescription costs between \$250 and \$2,250
- 100% of prescription costs between \$2,250 and \$3,600
- 5% of prescription costs exceeding \$3,600 annually

SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFIT

Seniors with individual incomes less than \$11,500 or joint income (married) of less than \$23,000 are eligible for a supplemental benefit, and pay in 2006 no premium, no deductible and small copayments (\$1 - \$5) depending on income.

Medicare Drug Benefit Timeline

October

All Medicare recipients receive a handbook describing the plans that will be available to choose from. Seniors qualifying for Medicaid or Supplemental Security Income will be assigned to plans at this point.

November 15

Seniors may begin enrolling in plans by calling the company offering the plan that they choose directly, or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

January 1, 2006

Prescription coverage begins for those who have enrolled by December 30.

April 2006

Medicare will send reminders to those who have not enrolled in a Medicare drug plan.

May 15, 2006

Open enrollment ends.



Rep. Pastor recently visited with the seniors group at Golden Gate Community Center in west Phoenix to inform them about the new Medicare Drug Benefit.



Federal grants awarded to Phoenix Fire Department, Phoenix, Glendale police

The Phoenix Fire Department has been awarded a \$1.2 million grant by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to help improve the effectiveness of fire fighting operations, and firefighter health and safety programs, announced U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor.

In a separate announcement, the Department of Justice granted funds to Phoenix and Glendale Police departments, among other agencies in the state, to purchase bullet-proof vests.

For the vests, Phoenix was awarded \$11,240; Glendale received \$9,687; the Department of Public Safety was awarded \$32,460; and the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office was given \$57,395.

Congressman visits American Indian nonprofit

Organization's services focus on improving lives

U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor, D-Ariz., recently visited the American Indian Prevention Coalition, Inc., and its NDNS4WELLNESS educational and behavioral health services agency to learn more about the nonprofit organization and its services, which are funded in part by federal grants.

The organization's mission is to support the development of safe, successful, healthy and drug-free American Indian and other indigenous youth, families and communities in urban and reservation areas.

Rep. Pastor visited with board members, administrators and staff

and told them they were doing valuable work that benefits individuals in need.

Programs promote safe, successful, healthy and drug-free American Indian youth, families and communities on and off the Reservations.

It offers health prevention programs, youth and family outpatient services and residential treatment, among other services. The U.S. Department of Education has awarded it funding for mentoring programs.



U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor recently visited the offices of NDNS4WELLNESS and met with Bonny Beach, executive and clinical director, and John Whiteshirt, a member of the board of directors. Pastor recognized the organization with a tribute to its success in the Congressional Record.

Valley transportation projects' funding authorized

Several significant Valley transportation infrastructure projects were included in a \$286 billion highway and mass transit bill passed in July by the U.S. House of Representatives, announced Rep. Ed Pastor. Pastor sits on the House Appropriations Committee and was influential in securing support for many of the Valley projects.

The bill included \$14.7 million in projects for the Fourth Congressional District, Pastor said.

"This transportation authorization bill provides for some critical projects in our Valley that address our growing needs," Pastor said.

Those projects included:

- \$6.4 million to construct the **Rio Salado Parkway** to connect Interstate 10 and Loop 202 freeways to Seventh Street in downtown Phoenix.

- \$4.18 million to construct a **bus facility in the west Valley**.

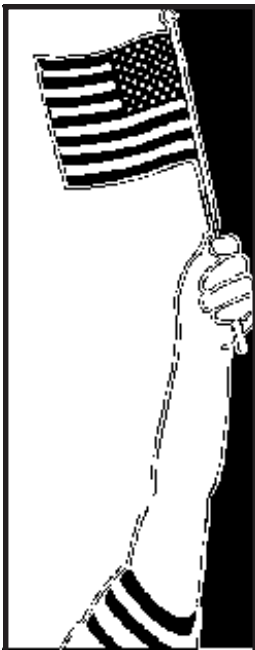
- \$2.4 million to construct a **pedestrian and bicycle overpass** at McDowell Road and 35th Avenue by **Isaac Middle School**.

- \$836,000 each to build a city of Phoenix paratransit facility for **Dial-A-Ride**, and a **regional bus maintenance facility**.



Hospital needs reviewed

Congressman Ed Pastor recently visited with officials from Phoenix Children's Hospitals to review programs at the hospital and discuss collaborative projects with the federal government.



U.S. citizenship effort will be held Oct. 15

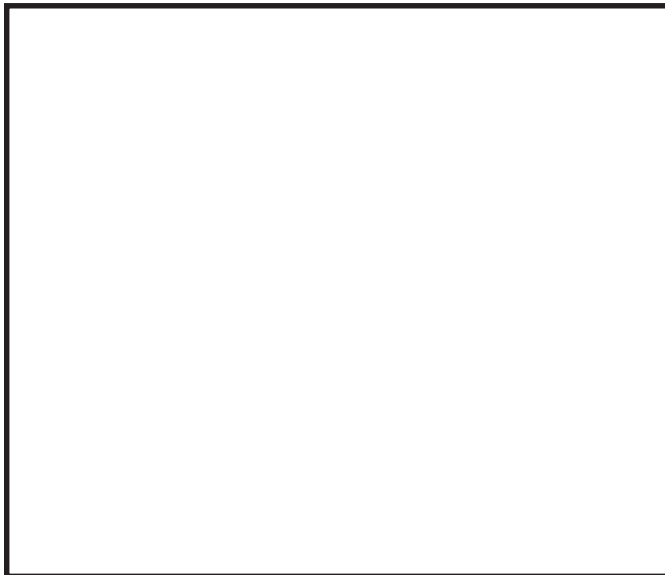
Rep. Ed Pastor continues to encourage legal residents to apply for U.S. citizenship by holding naturalization events in his district. The next one is planned for Oct. 15 in Phoenix.

At the event, permanent legal residents who qualify for U.S. citizenship will receive assistance from trained volunteers in filling out their citizenship applications. The volunteers regularly provide complimentary assistance in the community. **To register for the Oct. 15 event, please contact Congressman Pastor's Phoenix District Office at 602-256-0551.**

While assistance is provided at no charge, there is a \$390 fee currently charged by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to apply for U.S. citizenship. The location of the event will be provided to individuals as they register.

To become a U.S. citizen, a person must:

- Have been a legal permanent resident of the United States for at least five years (or only three years if married to a U.S. citizen for at least three years).
- Speak, read and write in English.
- Have knowledge and understanding of U.S. history and government.
- Have good moral character.



Above, a volunteer at Congressman Pastor's citizenship event assists a legal resident who is applying for U.S. citizenship

In the above photograph, Jorge Quintana of Laveen is recognized by Congressman Pastor's District Director Ron Piceno after Quintana was sworn in as a U.S. citizen. Quintana applied for citizenship at one of Pastor's citizenship events about a year-and-a-half ago.

Congressman Pastor greeted U.S. citizen applicants at a naturalization effort he held on July 9. About 200 people made appointments that day to receive assistance from trained volunteers who helped them fill out their naturalization application.

